

## Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

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DRAFTED BY:NEA/ARP:BWRAMPELMEIER

APPROVED BY:NEA/ARP:BWRAMPELMEIER

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P 111628Z JUL 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 149593

FOLLOWING REPEAT JIDDA 3947 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO DHAHRAN  
DATED 10 JULY 1974:

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 3947

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, SA

SUBJECT: SAUDI CONCERN OVER "WHITE HOUSE" STATEMENT ON  
REDUCTION OF OIL PRICES

1. AHMAD ZAKI YAMANI, SAUDI MINISTER OF PETROLEUM,  
TOLD ME THAT PRINCE MUSA'ID, MINISTER OF FINANCE HAD  
JUST QUESTIONED HIM ABOUT A BBC REPORT IN WHICH THE  
"WHITE HOUSE" HAD SAID THAT THE MAIN PURPOSE OF  
SECRETARY SIMON'S VISIT TO THE MIDDLE EAST WAS TO  
PERSUADE THE ARABS TO REDUCE OIL PRICES. MUSA'ID SAID  
THAT IF THIS WERE TRUE THERE WAS NO NEED FOR SECRETARY  
SIMON TO COME TO SAUDI ARABIA. IT'S POSITION WAS  
CLEARLY KNOWN; EGYPT WAS IRRELEVANT AND ISRAEL'S  
INFLUENCE ON OPEC OIL POLICY WAS MINIMAL.

2. YAMANI WAS BITTER ABOUT THE STATEMENT; HE SAID HE  
HAD BEEN UNDER CONSTANT ATTACK FROM OPEC AND ELSEWHERE  
ABOUT HIS ACTIONS AND HIS STATEMENTS. HIS VIEWS  
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BY NOW SHOULD BE WELL KNOWN TO THE UNITED STATES.

HE ASKED HOW THE "WHITE HOUSE" COULD HAVE MADE SUCH AN "INCREDIBLE" STATEMENT.

3. I SAID THAT I HAD NOT READ ANY SUCH STATEMENT, NOR HAD I EVEN HEARD OF IT. BUT IT WASN'T ANYTHING TO GET PARTICULARLY DISTURBED ABOUT. WE BOTH AGREED THAT OIL PRICES HAD RISEN TOO RAPIDLY AND THAT THE WORLD COULD NOT ADJUST TO THESE SUDDEN INCREASES. IT WOULD SCARCELY BE UNUSUAL FOR SECRETARY SIMON TO DISCUSS WITH YAMANI AND OTHERS THE MEANS FOR BRINGING DOWN OIL PRICES. SECRETARY SIMON UNDERSTOOD AS WELL AS ANYONE IN THE WORLD THE POSITION OF SAUDI ARABIA AND THERE COULD HAVE BEEN NO INTENTION IN THE WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCEMENT (IF INDEED SUCH AN ANNOUNCEMENT HAD BEEN MADE) TO HURT ZAKI YAMANI.

4. COMMENT: I WOULD SUGGEST THAT QUESTION OF PETROLEUM PRICES NOT BE DISCUSSED IN ANY WIDER CIRCLE. THE SECRETARY AND I WILL HAVE AMPLE TIME WITH YAMANI ALONE AND THE SUBJECT CAN BE DISCUSSED THEN.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE SEND US THE TEXT OF THE PERTINENT WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCEMENT IF IT EXISTS. AKINS  
UNQTE KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PETROLEUM, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, NEWS LEAKS, NEGOTIATIONS, PRICES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 JUL 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** shawdg  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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